

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A system for reconciling a current inventory record having counts, pricing, and vintaging for a plurality of product types, comprising:

a storage device comprising:

a first database containing the current inventory record comprising count, vintage, and price information; and,

a second database containing tables defining allowable product substitutions for the plurality of product types, and

a representative price and vintaging table containing price and vintage records, the price and vintage table containing a representative price and a representative vintage for each of the plurality of product types, wherein the representative price and the representative vintage are statistically predetermined based on historical inventory records having outlier values for price and vintage removed; and

a processing device configured to;

receive an updated count for each product type of an inventory,

obtain the current inventory record from the first database,

remove from each count of the current inventory record, each instance of each count having outlier values for pricing or vintage,

compare the updated count to the count of the current inventory record to obtain a difference in count for each product type,

determine if the difference for a first product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type relative to the updated count for the first product type,

reference the product type of the shorted count of the current inventory record with the second database,

determine if the first product type is interchangeable with a second product type, if the difference for the first product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type, ~~determine if the first product type is interchangeable with a second product type,~~

determine if the difference for the second product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory record for the second product type relative to the updated count for the second product type, if the first product type is interchangeable with a second product type, ~~determine if the difference for the second product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory record for the second product type relative to the updated count for the second product type,~~

substitute the excess of the second product type in place of the shortage of the first product type in the current inventory record, if the difference for the second product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory

~~record for the second product type, substitute the excess of the second product type in place of the shortage of the first product type in the current inventory record, wherein the pricing and vintaging associated with the excess of the second product type are also substituted in place of the shortage of the first product type.~~ wherein the price and vintage information being substituted in place of the shortage of the first product type in the current inventory record is a representative price and a representative vintage from the representative price and vintage table; and

generate a report showing reductions and additions to the count of the current inventory record.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~22~~11, wherein the representative price and vintage are averages of the price and vintage from the historical inventory record.

14.-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The system of claim 17,~~ A system for reconciling a current inventory record having counts, pricing, and vintaging for a plurality of product types, comprising:

a storage device comprising:

a first database containing the current inventory record comprising count, vintage, and price information;

a second database containing tables defining allowable product substitutions for the plurality of product types; and

a representative pricing and vintaging table containing price and vintage records, the price and vintage table containing a representative price and a representative vintage for each of the plurality of product types, wherein the representative price and the representative vintage are statistically predetermined based on historical inventory records having outlier values for price and vintage removed; and

a processing device configured to:

receive an updated count for each product type of an inventory,

obtain the current inventory record from the first database,

remove from each count of the current inventory record, each instance of each count having outlier values for pricing or vintage,

compare the updated count to the count of the current inventory record to obtain a difference in count for each product type,

determine if the difference for a first product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type relative to the updated count for the first product type,

reference the product type of the shorted count of the current inventory record with the second database,

determine if the first product type is interchangeable with a second product type, if the difference for the first product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type,

determine if the difference for the second product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory record for the second product type relative to the updated count for the second product type, if the first product type is interchangeable with a second product type,

substitute the excess of the second product type in place of the shortage of the first product type in the current inventory record, if the difference for the second product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory record for the second product type, wherein the price and vintage information being substituted in place of the shortage of the first product type in the current inventory record is a representative price and a representative vintage from the representative price and vintage table; and

generate a report showing reductions and additions to the count of the current inventory record wherein the processing device is further configured to reduce the count of the current inventory record for the first product type by the difference if the difference for the first product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type relative to the updated count for the first product and the first product is not interchangeable with the second product type, wherein the processing device is further configured to reduce the count of the current inventory record for the first product type by

deleting a number of instances of the count for the first product type that are equal to the difference and that have an earliest vintage.

Claims 17.-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, further comprising:

~~a storage device containing price and vintage tables, the price and vintage tables containing a representative price and vintage for each of the plurality of product types, wherein the representative price and vintage are statistically predetermined based on historical inventory records having outlier values for price and vintage removed; and~~

the processing device further configured to add the difference to the count of the current inventory record for the first product type along with the representative price and vintage for each instance added to the count if the difference for the first product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type relative to the updated count for the first product type and if the first product type is not interchangeable with the second product type.

23. (New) The system of claim 11, wherein the processing device is further configured to determine if the difference for a first product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type relative to the updated count for the first product type, if the difference for the first product type does not indicate a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type.

24. (New) The system of claim 11, wherein the processing device is further configured to determine if the first product type is interchangeable with the second product type, if the difference for the first product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type.

25. (New) The system of claim 11, wherein the processing device is further configured to determine if the difference for the second product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the second product type relative to the updated count for the second product type, if the first product type is interchangeable with a second product type.

26. (New) The system of claim 11, wherein the processing device is further configured to substitute the excess of the first product type in place of the shortage of the second product type in the current inventory record, if the difference for the second product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the second product type, wherein the pricing and vintaging associated with the excess of the first product type are also substituted in place of the shortage of the second product type.

27. (New) A method for reconciling a current inventory record having counts, pricing, and vintaging for a plurality of product types, the method comprising:
receiving an updated count for each product type of an inventory;

obtaining the current inventory record from a first database, the first database containing the current inventory record comprising count, vintage, and price information;

removing from each count of the current inventory record, each instance of each count having outlier values for pricing or vintage;

comparing the updated count to the count of the current inventory record to obtain a difference in count for each product type;

determining if the difference for a first product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type relative to the updated count for the first product type;

referencing the product type of the shorted count of the current inventory record with a second database, the second database containing tables defining allowable product substitutions for the plurality of product types;

determining if the first product type is interchangeable with a second product type, if the difference for the first product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type;

determining if the difference for the second product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory record for the second product type relative to the updated count for the second product type, if the first product type is interchangeable with a second product type;

substituting the excess of the second product type in place of the shortage of the first product type in the current inventory record, if the difference for the second product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory record for the second

product type and the first product type is interchangeable with the second product type;
and

generating a report showing reductions and additions to the count of the current inventory record.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein substituting the excess comprises substituting the excess wherein the price and vintage information are substituted in place of the shortage of the first product type in the current inventory record is a representative price and a representative vintage from a representative price and vintage table.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein substituting the excess comprises substituting the excess wherein the representative price and vintage are averages of the price and vintage from the historical inventory record.

30. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein substituting the excess comprises substituting the excess wherein a representative pricing and vintaging table containing price and vintage records, the price and vintage table containing a representative price and a representative vintage for each of the plurality of product types, wherein the representative price and the representative vintage are statistically predetermined based on historical inventory records having outlier values for price and vintage removed.

31. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising adding the difference to the count of the current inventory record for the first product type along with the representative price and vintage for each instance added to the count if the difference for the first product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type relative to the updated count for the first product type and if the first product type is not interchangeable with the second product type.

32. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising determining if the difference for a first product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type relative to the updated count for the first product type, if the difference for the first product type does not indicate a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type.

33. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising determining if the first product type is interchangeable with the second product type, if the difference for the first product type indicates an excess in the count of the current inventory record for the first product type.

34. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising determining if the difference for the second product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the second product type relative to the updated count for the second product type, if the first product type is interchangeable with a second product type.

35. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising substituting the excess of the first product type in place of the shortage of the second product type in the current inventory record, if the difference for the second product type indicates a shortage in the count of the current inventory record for the second product type, wherein the pricing and vintaging associated with the excess of the first product type are also substituted in place of the shortage of the second product type.